

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) A recommendation has been received, but final orders have not been passed.

(b) An application from one has been received. Tamilians, like others, will have their applications considered.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): It is stated in the answer, "Tamilians, like others, will have their applications considered".

Are the Government aware that the TAMILIAN community is not sufficiently represented in the public service of the State?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have not called for the statistics. What the member says seems to be right.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to recall the statistics supplied in answer to a question at the previous session?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That has been referred to.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will the Government be pleased to note from that the percentage of Tamilians in the State service?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The percentage has not been calculated.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): If it is found that Tamilians are the least represented in the public service, will the Government be pleased to give special preference to applications from Tamilians?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That requires consideration.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I want to know from Government whether they are prepared to give preferential treatment to Tamilians when they understand, without the least vantage of doubt, that Tamilians are not adequately represented in the public service.

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Conditional questions cannot be answered off-hand.

Statistics re Growth and Extraction of Timber.

18. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI** (*Tovala*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the total acreage of timber forests in the State, the mean annual increment of timber growth per acre and the mean annual extraction of timber per acre and the price thereof?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the total acreage of forests of private ownership in the State and the average quantity of timber of royal trees extracted from them per acre per year and the revenue on account of royalty?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*):

(a) and (b) The required statistics are not available.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): It is stated in the answer,—
“The required statistics are not available.”

Do not the Government think that, in order to understand the present capacity of our forests to produce wealth, it is necessary that they should proceed in the manner contemplated by the two questions?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*): Yes; that is why working plans are being prepared.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that, in the Madras Presidency, the Conservator of Forests has prepared such figures as have been called for in the question?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*): Government are not aware.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Do the Government think that this is really necessary to proceed to tap the resources of the forests in the right manner?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*): Yes; that is why they are preparing working plans and working schemes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Do the Government propose to make these statistics available to this House?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government on other duty*): Yes; when the statistics are prepared and are ready.

Disafforestation in Tovala Taluk.

19. MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): (a) Are the Government aware that there are large and numerous swampy tracts in the forest areas in the Tovala taluk for cultivation?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there was any Disafforestation Committee appointed for the Tovala taluk as was done in nine other taluks of the State? If not, do the Government propose to do it?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The Government will enquire into the need for the appointment of a committee for the taluk.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. Will the Government be pleased to take it from me that there are really large tracts, fit for cultivation, for the registry of which the poor ryots of those places have submitted applications to Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Government note the information.

Travancore Debenture Bonds.

20. MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state what the present value of the Travancore Debenture Bond is?